

**CYNGOR CEFN GWLAD CYMRU
COUNTRYSIDE COUNCIL FOR WALES**

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST CITATION

POWYS

CAEAU TY-MAWR

Date of Notification: 1990

National Grid Reference: SO 121263

O.S. Maps: 1:50,000 Sheet number: 161
1:25,000 Sheet number: SO 12

Site Area: 14.4 ha

Description:

This site is one of the most extensive areas of agriculturally unimproved lowland grassland remaining in Brecknock. It comprises four fields situated on level ground to the west of Llangorse Lake. A wide range of typical grassland plants is present, including a species that is rare in Mid-Wales.

The majority of the site supports a sward dominated by common bent *Agrostis capillaris*, sweet vernal-grass *Anthoxanthum odoratum*, crested dogs-tail *Cynosurus cristatus*, red fescue *Festuca rubra* and Yorkshire-fog *Holcus lanatus*, with frequent common knapweed *Centaurea nigra*, common birds-foot-trefoil *Lotus corniculatus*, ribwort plantain *Plantago lanceolata*, tormentil *Potentilla erecta*, devils-bit scabious *Succisa pratensis* and red clover *Trifolium pratense*. Other characteristic associates include heath grass *Danthonia decumbens*, autumn hawkbit *Leontodon autumnalis* and betony *Stachys officinalis*. Glaucus sedge *Carex flacca* is locally abundant and species such as meadow fescue *Festuca pratensis* and hairy ladies-mantle *Alchemilla filicaulis* are occasional in the sward.

The wetter parts of the fields are either dominated by rushes *Juncus* spp. or by purple moor-grass *Molinia caerulea*. The former community is characterised by abundant sharp-flowered rush *Juncus acutiflorus* with frequent meadowsweet *Filipendula ulmaria*, common marsh-bedstraw *Galium palustre* and greater birds-foot-trefoil *Lotus uliginosus*, and also occasional marsh valerian *Valeriana dioica*. The latter community shows affinities with the drier grassland, but also supports species such as tawny sedge *Carex hostiana*, heath spotted-orchid *Dactylorhiza maculata* subsp. *ericetorum* and the regionally rare pepper-saxifrage *Silaum silaus*. A small area of woodland on the western edge of the site is dominated by alder *Alnus glutinosa* and ash *Fraxinus excelsior*.

Remarks:

The site lies within the Brecon Beacons National Park.

*This document is **NOT** a definitive legal version and has been formatted, updated and partially edited for use on the CCW Web site. This document should not be used in any legal proceedings,*

public enquiry or any other hearing or appeal. If you require a full legal copy of the document please contact CCW in writing.